

Under embargo until 1.00am on Thursday, 31 January 2008

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COURT ADMINISTRATION (CHAPTER 7)

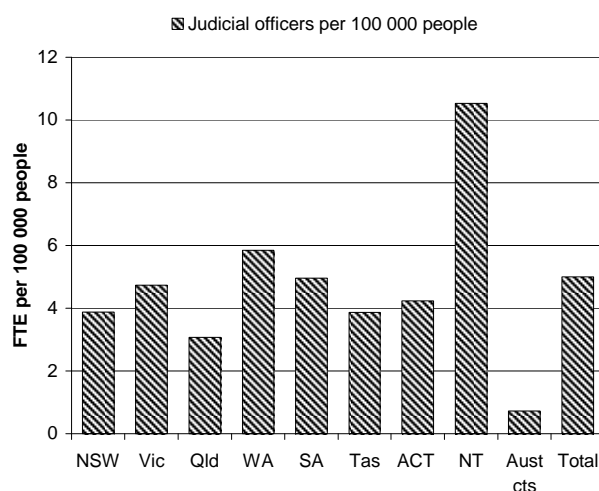
- The focus of this chapter is the court administration functions of Australian and State and Territory courts. Data are reported for the Federal Court, the Family Court of Australia, and the Federal Magistrates Court, the criminal and civil jurisdictions of the supreme courts (including probate registries), district/county courts, magistrates' courts (including electronic systems and children's courts), coroners courts and the Family Court of WA.
- In 2006-07, there were approximately 819 500 cases lodged, and 808 400 cases finalised, in the criminal jurisdiction of the supreme, district/county and magistrates' courts. In the civil jurisdiction of these same courts there were approximately 625 600 cases lodged and 599 400 cases finalised. Approximately 117 300 cases were lodged, and approximately 116 600 cases finalised, in the Australian Courts (pp. 7.15–19).
- Total court administration recurrent expenditure less income (excluding fines) by the court authorities covered in the Report was approximately \$1.01 billion in 2006-07, comprising \$767 million for the State and Territory courts and \$247 million for the Australian courts (pp. 7.11–13).

Objectives of court administration

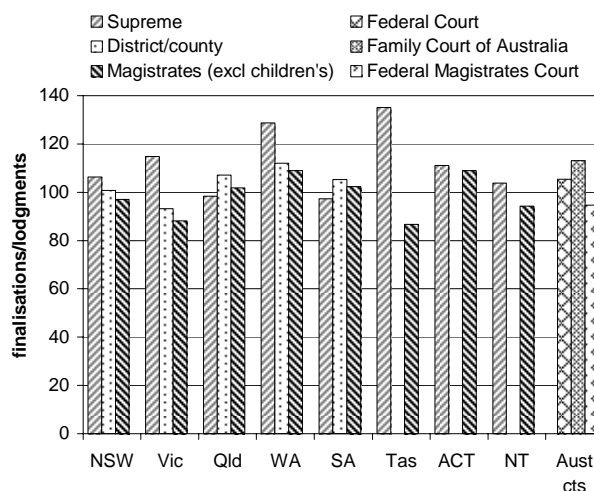
- Common objectives for court administration services across Australia are: to be open and accessible; to process matters in an expeditious and timely manner; to provide due process and equal protection before the law; and to be independent yet publicly accountable for performance (p. 7.20).

Selection of results

Judicial officers, full time equivalent, per 100 000 people, 2006-07^a (p. 7.31)



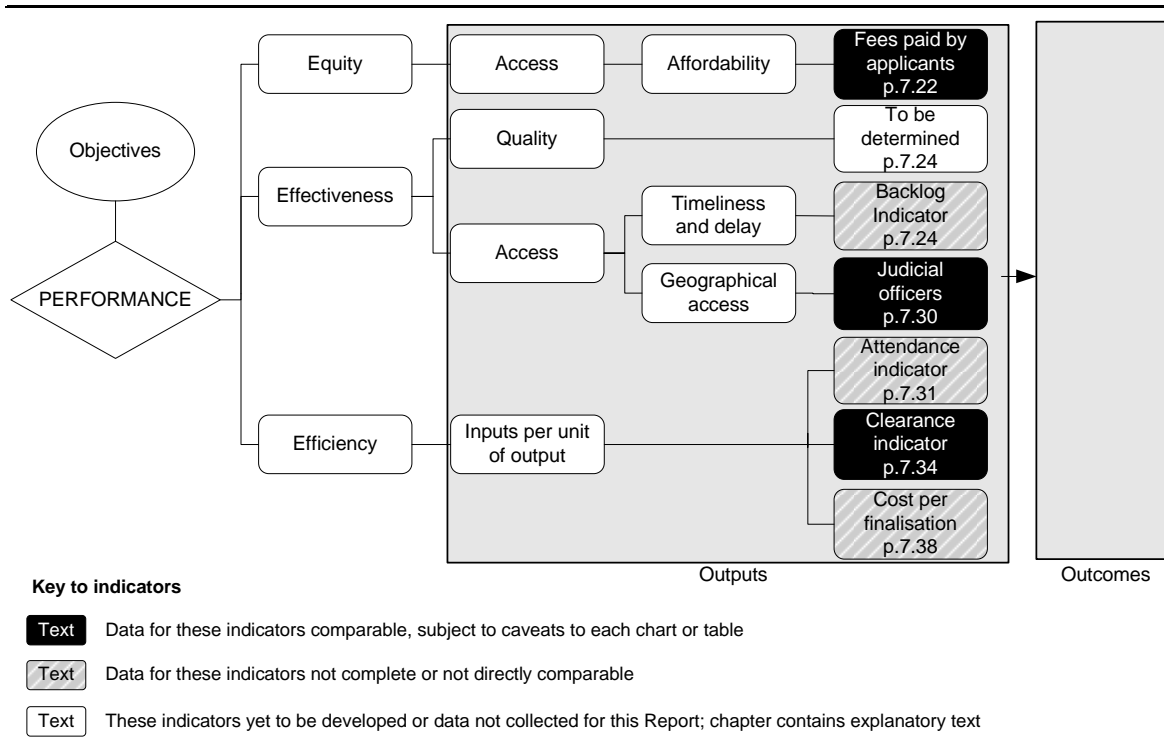
Clearance indicator (finalisations/lodgments), all matters (criminal and civil), 2006-07^a (p. 7.37)



^aData and caveats for these figures are available electronically on the CD-ROM enclosed with the Report and from the website for the Review of Government Service Provision (<http://www.pc.gov.au/gsp/reports/rogs/2008>). Data may be subject to revision. The most recent data will be available on the Review website.

Performance indicators for court administration (figure 7.3, p. 7.21)

- The Report’s framework of performance indicators for court administration is based on the common objectives for court administration services across Australia.
- The court administration chapter presents information about court workload (lodgments and finalisations), and resources (expenditure and staff), as well as data for six output indicators.



Developments in reporting since the 2007 Report

- For the first time in 2008, the court administration attachment tables present 5 years of time series data for all indicators.

[END]

Background information: Lawrence McDonald, Head of Secretariat 03 9653 2178/0421 584 905

Other information: Clair Angel, Media and Publications 02 6240 3239/0417 665 443

Please do not approach other parties for comment before Thursday 31 January 2008.

Media copies of this report are available from Clair Angel on 02 6240 3239.

Hard copies of this publication are available from Pirion/J.S. McMillan (ph: 02 9795 1200 or email custserv@jsmcmillan.com.au). The report will be available via the Internet at <http://www.pc.gov.au/> on the morning of Thursday 31 January 2008.

Tables with an 'A' suffix (eg table 7A.5) are in the attachments on the CD-ROM or on the Review website.